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WINSLOW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR 1952.

June 1953.

To the Chairman & Councillors of
Winslow Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the health and vital statistics for the year 1952. Incorporated in the report is that of the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor Mr. Piper, showing details of the sanitary circumstances and inspection duties performed by himself and the Staff.

Judging by the number of infectious cases notified, the District has been peculiarly fortunate during the past year. The incidence of minor infections generally was less than the previous year. Only one case of whooping cough as compared with 35 in the year 1951, and 55 measles compared with 143 the previous year. No case of diphtheria, food poisoning, poliomyelitis, or enteric fever was notified. It is to be hoped that the figures will not make parents too complacent. Outbreaks of diphtheria and smallpox are still reported in various parts of the country. Easy and rapid transport means greater liability of infections being transmitted from other areas. Protection by vaccination and immunisation is still as necessary as ever it was, apathy is dangerous until smallpox, diphtheria, and whooping cough have ceased to be. With the advances in modern treatment by chemotherapy and antibiotics, fewer cases of infectious disease are treated in hospital. There was only one case from this district throughout the year.

It is gratifying to note the substantial progress made during the year in the comprehensive sewerage scheme initiated by the Council. Drayton Parslow and the large and scattered village of Stewkley have been sewered, and new disposal works completed. The new works at Winslow and the completion of the schemes for North Marston, and Great and Little Horwood, are great amenities upon which the Council is to be congratulated.

I thank you Madam and Gentlemen for your continued assistance to myself and all members of the Staff throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

James Smith
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS FOR 1952.

Medical Officer of Health.
Medical Officer under Poor Law Acts.
Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor.
Additional Sanitary Inspector.
Public Health Clerk.

Dr. J.T.C. Sims-Roberts.
Dr. P.F. Rudd.
Mr. C.S. Piper.
Mr. N.J. Shipp.
Mr. D.W. French.

EXTRACT OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1952.

	1951.			1952.		
	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.
<u>Live Births</u> - Legitimate	139	79	60	108	57	51
Illegitimate	6	5	1	4	2	2
 <u>Still Births</u> - Legitimate	1	1	-	3	3	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-

	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>
<u>Birth Rate</u> per 1,000 estimated population	19.5	14.9.
Birth Rate (corrected)	22.2	16.80
Total (live & still) Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	19.7	15.37
Birth Rate for England & Wales	15.5	15.3

	<u>1951.</u>			<u>1952.</u>		
	<u>Total. M. F.</u>			<u>Total. M. F.</u>		
Deaths	137	60	77	98	55	43

	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	18.5	13.0
Standardised Death Rate.....	13.7	9.6
Death Rate for England & Wales	12.5	11.3

<u>Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.</u>	<u>1951</u>			<u>1952.</u>		
	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Legitimate	7	3	4	2	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-

	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>
<u>Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.</u>		
<u>All Infants per 1,000 live births</u>	48.3	17.8
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	50.3	17.8
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-

<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.</u>	<u>1951.</u>			<u>1952.</u>		
	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Legitimate	4	2	2	2	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-	-

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	36420
Population	7509
Number of inhabited houses at 31st. December 1952. (according to Rate Book).	2438
Rateable Value (31st. December 1952)	£31651
Sum represented by Penny Rate (31st. March 1952).	£ 120 - 10 - 1.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

During the year 73 cases were reported of which one was treated in hospital.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1952.

Measles	55	(143)
Pneumonia	3	(5)
Whooping Cough	1	(35)
Scarlet Fever	6	(12)
Para. Typhoid B.	-	(1)
Salmonella Typhi-murium	-	(2)
Acute Paralytic Poliomyelitis	-	(1)

Tuberculosis (Respiratory) New Cases. 8

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

Total number of outbreaks	Nil.
Number of cases	Nil.
Number of deaths	Nil.

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS.

Tuberculosis Respiratory	1.
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3.
" " lung bronchus	3.
" " breast	4.
Other Malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	9.
Leukaemia, alukaemia	1.
Vascular lesions of nervous system	17.
Coronary diseases angina	8.
Hypertension with heart disease	3.
Other heart disease	16.
Other circulatory disease	2.
Pneumonia	5.
Bronchitis	1.
Other diseases of respiratory system	3.
Ulcer of stomach of duodenum	2.
Gastritis and diarrhoea	2.
Nephritis & nephrosis	1.
Hyperplasia of prostate	3.
Congenital malformations	2.
Other defined & ill defined diseases	7.
Motor vehicle accidents	1.
All other accidents	4
All causes	<u>98</u>

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Hospitals.

Hospital accommodation for the district is provided by the Royal Bucks and Tindal General Hospitals, Aylesbury. Infectious disease cases are admitted to the Aylesbury Isolation Hospital, or one of the Isolation Hospitals in the Oxford Camp.

These three Hospitals are administered by the Aylesbury and District Hospital Management Committee.

Cases are admitted to the Stoke Mandeville or the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, if bed space is unavailable.

Similarly, infectious disease cases are admitted to the Infectious Disease Hospitals within the Oxford Region when there is no accommodation locally.

Pathological Specimens.

The majority of specimens for examination are submitted to the Pathology Laboratory, Stoke Mandeville Hospital. The services of the Public Health Laboratories at Luton and Oxford are utilised whenever necessary.

Ambulance Services.

The ambulance services in the area are the responsibility of Bucks County Council. Five ambulances are stationed in the Borough of Aylesbury for the use of the Town and surrounding district. Included in this number is a sitting case ambulance.

Maternity & Child Welfare.

This service is controlled by the Bucks County Council.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at Great Horwood, Stewkley and Winslow and a Mobile Welfare Centre visits Mursley, Newton Longville, Shenley and Swanbourne.

Diphtheria & Whooping Cough Immunisation.

The Bucks County Council, being the Local Health Authority, as defined by the National Health Service Act 1946, administer this service.

Treatment of Venereal Disease.

A Venereal Disease Clinic is held regularly at the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury, where free treatment is given. This clinic is administered by the Aylesbury and District Hospital Management Committee.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. Section 47 (1) Removal of persons in need of Care and Attention.

It was not necessary to remove any case to hospital under this Act during the year.

Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1952.

As noted last year (when the new Sewerage Schemes for Stewkley and Drayton Parslow were completed) the additional new schemes for North Marston and Great and Little Horwood are a considerable contribution to the improvement of the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Similarly the new works at Winslow has abated a nuisance, the remedy for which had become increasingly urgent during recent years.

I think it may be said that the difficulties arising from Sewage Disposal are being surmounted.

The problem of disrepair of Rent Restricted Houses is becoming increasingly serious, as building and repair costs have increased out of proportion to the rents which can be charged.

I would like to express my appreciation for the continued co-operation offered by all members of the Staff, and for the consideration and interest always shown by the various Committees and the Council in dealing with matters concerning this department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The following new connections to the Bucks Water Board mains have been reported during 1952.

Drayton Parslow	-	Nash	-
Dunton	-	Newton Longville	1
East Claydon	-	North Marston	11
Granborough	4	Shenley Brook End	5
Great Horwood	5	Stewkley	22
Hoggeston	1	Swanbourne	1
Hogshaw	1	Tattenhoe	-
Little Horwood	1	Whaddon	-
Mursley	3	Winslow	1

Of these, 9 properties were connected following the service of Statutory Notices.

I am indebted to the Bucks Water Board for the following information.

1. Supply throughout the area has been at all times satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity.
2. Raw water is sampled at approximately monthly intervals. All reports have been satisfactory.
3. Samples of the water from the distributing mains serving this district are taken monthly. All have been satisfactory.
4. Chemical samples are taken quarterly at the source. All satisfactory.
5. There is no tendency to plumbo-solvency.

Particulars of water supply are shown parochially as follows:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>No. of Dwelling Houses on Main.</u>	<u>Est. Pop.</u>	<u>No. of Stand Pipes.</u>	<u>Est. Pop.</u>
Drayton Parslow	91	330	5	18
Dunton	15	52	3	11
East Claydon	74	312	4	10
Granborough	66	230	4	12
Great Horwood	146	512	18	36
Hoggeston	16	52	2	5
Hogshaw	9	32	-	-
Little Horwood	62	251	8	22
Mursley	87	337	9	39
Nash	57	212	3	6
Newton Longville	138	531	11	37
North Marston	128	460	2	5
Shenley Brook End	45	172	2	6
Stewkley	241	659	10	43
Swanbourne	77	257	-	-
Tattenhoe	3	13	-	-
Whaddon	72	290	7	25
Winslow	400	1532	20	68

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

Additional works completed during the year ^{number} 5, being those of the Council's major schemes at Drayton Parslow, Stewkley, North Marston, Winslow and Great and Little Horwood.

The method of maintenance, approved by the Council last year, is now in full operation, and can be regarded as generally satisfactory. Excellent effluents are being obtained from the modern works, and a general improvement in the standard of all the works has resulted.

Owners of properties served by the schemes continue to take advantage of the facilities. There is no doubt that this is reflected by a considerable betterment of the dwellings in the areas concerned.

MEAT & OTHER FOODS.

Routine inspections of all butcher's shops and shops selling or preparing food have been carried out. No slaughter houses operate within this area.

Unfit food condemned during the year amounted to 294 lbs. chiefly in respect of tinned foods.

ICE CREAM.

There are no premises where ice cream is manufactured within the area.

25 retailers are registered, all of whom sell well-known brands of pre-packed ice cream. Routine inspection has shown no cause for complaint.

PREPARATION OF FOOD.

Routine inspection of premises used for the preparation of food, chiefly small cafes and hotels, has shown a generally satisfactory standard.

Unsatisfactory kitchen accommodation in one instance has been remedied after informal action.

BYELAWS. (Food & Drugs Act 1938 Sec. 15.)

On the whole these Byelaws are fairly well complied with, and it has not been found necessary to institute any proceedings for contravention.

FOOD POISONING.

No cases have been notified during 1952.

MILK & DAIRIES.

Retail dairies are the subject of routine inspection.

The main cause of complaints has been that of poor keeping quality of the milk.

In the majority of these cases the vendor has been interviewed and the premises inspected. It is extremely difficult however, in very hot weather, to be certain that the negligence, if any, is with the retailer, or whether it is due to thoughtless handling at the receiving end.

In all such cases the usual precautions are advised and enforced.

REFUSE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL.

On the whole, continues to operate satisfactorily.

The larger capacity vehicle which will be in use shortly, will considerably ease the labour problem, and it is hoped will free more labour for use on the tip, where control is not at present up to standard.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

Percentages for the area are as follows:-

Category I.	Fit in all respects	36%
" II.	Minor repairs required	24%
" III.	Major repairs required	32%
" IV.	Suitable for reconstruction under R.W. Acts	3%
" V.	Not repairable at reasonable expense	5%

HOUSING.

All reasonable efforts continue to be made to get essential repairs carried out. Due to the present high cost of repairs, many cases which are under consideration will necessarily take some time before negotiations with the owners are completed, or before Statutory action is recommended.

Action taken during the year has resulted in the following:-

Housing Act 1936

Demolished as a result of Statutory Action 4.
Rendered fit " " " " 4.
Rendered fit as a result of Informal Action 21.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS.

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

	No. on <u>Register.</u>	<u>Inspections.</u>	Number of Written Occs. <u>Notices.</u>	<u>Pros.</u>
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7.	18.	NIL.	NIL.
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12.	13.	NIL.	NIL.
TOTAL	19.	31.	NIL.	NIL.

Cases in which defects were found.

<u>Particulars.</u>	<u>Found.</u>	<u>Remedied.</u>	Referred To H.M. By H.M.		<u>Pros.</u>
			<u>Insp.</u>	<u>Insp.</u>	
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	NIL		NIL.
Sanitary Conveniences	2.	2.	NIL.		NIL.
(a) Insufficient	1.	NIL.	NIL.		NIL.
TOTAL	3.	2.	NIL.		NIL.

No. of Outworkers.

Wearing Apparel (Making, etc.) 1.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS.

The following miscellaneous inspections were carried out in 1952.

Water Supplies	36.
Milk & Dairies.....	24.
Sewers & Drains	157.
Refuse Tips (including Salvage)	48.
Nuisances Abated	21.
Inspections re Sanitary Accommodation	72.
Bakehouses	10.
Housing	216.
W.C. Conversions	36.
Infectious Disease Visits	15.